

CLAIMS

1 1. A method for facilitating database management
2 processes for an enterprise via a communications network,
3 comprising:

4 extracting part data relating to a part from a data
5 storage location;

6 retrieving activity data related to said part, said
7 activity data including:

8 demand data;

9 purchase data; and

10 creation data;

11 evaluating said part data and said activity data;

12 associating a status code with said part data based
13 upon results of said evaluating; and

14 storing said part data and said status code in said
15 data storage location, wherein said facilitating said
16 database management processes is accomplished by a parts
17 database management software application.

1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein said part data
2 includes:

3 a part number;

4 a part name; and

5 a part description.

1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said
2 activity data includes:

3 determining an occurrence of a demand for said part;
4 assessing currency of said demand;
5 quantifying said demand;

6 wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said
7 assessing said currency, and said quantifying said demand
8 causes said parts database management software application
9 to:

10 associate said status code with said part data when a
11 first condition is met; and

12 perform additional evaluations of said activity data
13 when a second condition is met.

1 4. The method of claim 2, wherein said demand activity
2 includes forecast data related to said part number.

1 5. The method of claim 2, wherein said demand activity
2 includes orders received related to said part number.

1 6. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said
2 activity data includes:

3 determining an occurrence of said purchase activity;
4 assessing currency of said purchase activity;
5 quantifying refund activity related to said purchase

6 activity;

7 wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said
8 assessing said currency, and said quantifying said refund
9 activity causes said parts database management software
10 application to:

11 associate said status code with said part data when a
12 third condition is met; and

13 perform additional evaluations of said activity data
14 when a fourth condition is met.

1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said
2 activity data includes:

3 determining a date upon which said part number was
4 entered into a database;

5 determining whether said part number is obsolete;

6 determining whether said part number is end of life;
7 wherein results of said determining said date, said
8 determining whether said part number is obsolete; and said
9 determining whether said part number is end of life causes
10 said parts database management software application to:

11 associate said status code with said part data when a
12 fifth condition is met; and

13 perform additional evaluations of said activity data
14 when a sixth condition is met.

1 8. The method of claim 1, wherein said evaluating said
2 activity data includes determining whether said part number
3 is owned by a group of said enterprise, wherein said results
4 of said determining causes said parts database management
5 software application to associate said status code with said
6 part data.

1 9. The method of claim 1, wherein said results of said
2 evaluating are reviewed by a council for said part numbers
3 with said status code.

1 10. The method of claim 1, wherein said status code
2 includes:
3 an active status; and
4 an inactive status.

1 11. A storage medium encoded with machine-readable
2 computer program code for facilitating database management
3 processes for an enterprise via a communications network,
4 the storage medium including instructions for causing a
5 computer to implement a method, comprising:

6 extracting part data relating to a part from a data
7 storage location;

8 retrieving activity data related to said part, said
9 activity data including:

10 demand data;

11 purchase data; and

12 creation data;

13 evaluating said part data and said activity data;

14 associating a status code with said part data based
15 upon results of said evaluating; and

16 storing said part data and said status code in said
17 data storage location, wherein said facilitating said
18 database management processes is accomplished by a parts
19 database management software application.

1 12. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 data includes:
3 a part number;
4 a part name; and
5 a part description.

1 13. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 evaluating said activity data includes:
3 determining an occurrence of a demand for said part;
4 assessing currency of said demand;
5 quantifying said demand;
6 wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said
7 assessing said currency, and said quantifying said demand
8 causes said parts database management software application
9 to:
10 associate said status code with said part data when a
11 first condition is met; and
12 perform additional evaluations of said activity data
13 when a second condition is met.

1 14. The storage medium of claim 12, wherein said
2 demand activity includes forecast data related to said part
3 number.

1 15. The storage medium of claim 12, wherein said
2 demand activity includes orders received related to said
3 part number.

1 16. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 evaluating said activity data includes:
3 determining an occurrence of said purchase activity;
4 assessing currency of said purchase activity;
5 quantifying refund activity related to said purchase
6 activity;
7 wherein results of said determining said occurrence, said
8 assessing said currency, and said quantifying said refund
9 activity causes said parts database management software
10 application to:
11 associate said status code with said part data when a
12 third condition is met; and
13 perform additional evaluations of said activity data
14 when a fourth condition is met.

1 17. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 evaluating said activity data includes:
3 determining a date upon which said part number was
4 entered into a database;
5 determining whether said part number is obsolete;
6 determining whether said part number is end of life;
7 wherein results of said determining said date, said
8 determining whether said part number is obsolete, and said
9 determining whether said part number is end of life causes
10 said parts database management software application to:
11 associate said status code with said part data when a
12 fifth condition is met; and
13 perform additional evaluations of said activity data
14 when a sixth condition is met.

1 18. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 evaluating said activity data includes determining whether
3 said part number is owned by a group of said enterprise,
4 wherein said results of said determining causes said parts
5 database management software application to associate said
6 status code with said part data.

1 19. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 results of said evaluating are reviewed by a council for
3 said part numbers with said status code.

1 20. The storage medium of claim 11, wherein said
2 status code includes:
3 an active status; and
4 an inactive status.

11/27/2001 10:35:11 AM